

**REVIEWED**

By Chris Tighe at 11:03 am, Jun 10, 2016

Micromedex Consumer Medication Information.

Published: March 1, 2016

# Citalopram (By mouth)

**sy-e-TAL-oh-pram**Treats [depression](#).**Drug classes**Antidepressant ([About this - PubMed Health](#))**Uses****Uses of This Medicine**

[Citalopram](#) is used to treat [depression](#). It belongs to a group of medicines known as selective serotonin reuptake [inhibitors](#) (SSRIs). These medicines are thought to work by increasing the activity of a chemical called serotonin in the [brain](#).

This medicine is available only with your doctor's prescription.

**Other uses**

(PubMed Health)

**How To Use****Liquid, Tablet**

Take this medicine as directed. You may need to take it for a month or more before you feel better. Your dose may need to be changed to find out what works best for you.

Measure the [oral](#) liquid medicine with a marked measuring spoon, oral syringe, or medicine cup.

This medicine should come with a Medication Guide. Ask your pharmacist for a copy if you do not have one.

**Missed dose:** Take a dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then and take a regular dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up for a missed dose.

Store the medicine in a closed container at room temperature, away from heat, moisture, and direct light.

**Drugs and Foods to Avoid**

Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicine, including over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and herbal products.

Do not use this medicine together with [pimozide](#). Do not use this medicine and an MAO [inhibitor](#) (MAOI) within 14 days of each other.

Some medicines can affect how [citalopram](#) works. Tell your doctor if you are using the following:

- [Buspirone](#), [carbamazepine](#), [chlorpromazine](#), [cimetidine](#), [fentanyl](#), [levomethadyl](#), [lithium](#), [tramadol](#), [methadone](#), [omeprazole](#), [pentamidine](#), St John's wort, [thioridazine](#), tryptophan supplements
- Medicine for [heart](#) rhythm problems ([amiodarone](#), [procainamide](#), [quinidine](#), [sotalol](#)), antibiotics ([gatifloxacin](#), [moxifloxacin](#)), NSAID pain or [arthritis](#) medicine (such as [aspirin](#), [diclofenac](#), [ibuprofen](#), [naproxen](#)), triptan medicine to treat [migraine headaches](#), a [blood](#) thinner (such as [warfarin](#)), or a [diuretic](#) ([water pill](#))

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